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Marine Fisheries Advisory
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**2003 MASSACHUSETTS SALTWATER FISHING DERBY
SETS FIVE NEW STATE RECORDS –
2004 DERBY STARTS ON MARCH 1**

The Division of Marine Fisheries held its annual Massachusetts Saltwater Fishing Derby awards ceremony on February 8th at the Eastern Fishing and Outdoor Exposition. The 2003 Derby saw 37 winners from a total of 230 derby entrants. Five new state records were set for albacore, dolphin, spanish mackerel, thresher shark and wahoo.

The 2004 Massachusetts Saltwater Fishing Derby commences March 1st and ends November 30th. It is open to all age groups and there is no entry fee. Fish entered must be caught in a fair and sporting manner on a hook and line and must be measured and weighed at an official weigh station on a certified scale. Weigh masters can be found at most local marinas and tackle shops. We would also like to remind participants that any entry must be caught in state waters and/or first landed in a Massachusetts port. In addition, a "Skillful Skipper" award is presented to the captain who has three derby winning fish caught on their boat per year.

To enter, fill out an official affidavit and have it certified at a weigh-station. Affidavits must be received within 30 days of catch and be postmarked no later than December 10th. Check *Marine Fisheries'* web site for current information at: <http://www.mass.gov/marinefisheries>.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Minimum Entry Weight (lbs.)</u>	<u>State Record</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Winning Weight</u>
Albacore	30	65 lbs	men	Tom Good	65 lbs
Black Sea Bass	4	8 lbs	men	Jeff Capute	6 lbs 4 oz
			women	Orietta DiGeronimo	4 lbs 5 oz
			junior	Kevin Owen	4 lbs 10 oz
Bluefish	12	27 lbs 4 oz	men	Mike Wilson	18 lbs
			women	Elena Rice	17 lbs 14 oz
			junior	Taylor Sears	13 lbs 5 oz
Blue Shark	250	454 lbs	men	Paul Trani	341 lbs
Bonito	5	13 lbs 8 oz	men	Stanley Brown	10 lbs 4 oz
Cod	30	92 lbs	men	Moe Howard	62 lbs 12 oz
			junior	Robert Emond	45 lbs

				Jr.	
Dolphin	30	38 lbs 8 oz	men	Michael Kane Gretchen Mills	38 lbs 8 oz 18 lbs 15 oz
Fluke	7	21 lb 8 oz	men women women junior	Charles Monteiro Jill Tuch Pamela Bradford Douglas Fraser	13 lbs 9 oz 10 lbs 12 oz 10 lbs 12 oz 8 lbs 13 oz
Haddock	8	20 lbs	men	George Kavgic	16 lbs 12 oz
Pollock	20	48 lbs 2 oz	men	Dennis Sullivan	34 lbs 6 oz
Scup	2	5 lbs 14 oz	men junior	Robert Conway Nicholas Curry	3 lbs 2 lbs 12 oz
Spanish Mackerel	5	6 lbs 12 oz	men junior	Timothy Carbone Julie Birch	6 lbs 12 oz 5 lbs 1 oz
Striped Bass	35	73 lbs	men women junior	Gary Corsetti Kathy Theiling Erich Bubb	54 lbs 46 lbs 51 lbs 12 oz
Tautog	8	22 lbs 9 oz	men women junior	Brian Calef Holly Fabbri Jonathan Morse	12 lbs 14 lbs 2 oz 9 lbs 1 oz
Thresher Shark	200	506 lbs	men	Jonathan Wietecha	506 lbs
Wahoo	30	92 lbs	men	Rich Laurendeau	92 lbs
Weakfish	8	18 lbs 12 oz	junior	Joshua Folco	8 lbs 10 oz
Winter Flounder	3	8 lbs 2 oz	men junior	Dennis DeCarney Zack Zero	5 lbs 3 lbs 1 oz
Wolfish	20	55 lbs 8 oz	men junior	Mike Comfort Jess Crozier	36 lbs 8 oz 23 lbs
Yellowfin Tuna	50	187 lbs	women	Marcia Kane	54 lbs